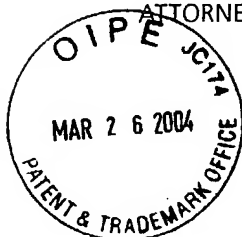


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March 26, 2004

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PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 1644

Re: U.S. Appl. No. 10/031,345; § 371 Date: July 22, 2002
(U.S. National Phase of PCT/US00/19774; Filed: July 19, 2000)

For: **Inducing Cellular Immune Responses To Hepatitis C Virus Using
Peptide and Nucleic Acid Compositions**

Inventors: SETTE *et al.*

Our Ref: 2060.0030006/EKS/PAJ/M-M

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CH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Second Preliminary Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.115;
2. Information Disclosure Statement;
3. Form PTO-1449 (26 pages);
4. First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement;
5. Form PTO-1449 (6 pages);
6. Copy of document AS27 cited on the First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement; and
7. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents

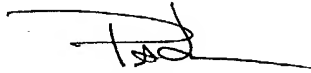
March 26, 2004

Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Peter A. Jackman
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 45,986

PAJ/M-M:amr



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In re application of:

SETTE *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/031,345

§ 371 Date: July 22, 2002

(National Phase of PCT/US00/19774;

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Responses to Hepatitis C Virus
Using Peptide and Nucleic Acid
Compositions**

Confirmation No.: 6431

Art Unit: 1644

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Atty. Docket: 2060.0030006/EKS/PAJ/M-M

Second Preliminary Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.115

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In advance of prosecution, Applicants submit the following amendment and remarks. This Supplemental Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made; and
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.